



**United
We
Stand**

Deputy Sheriff's Association of Michigan

President: Dave LaMontaine
Monroe County DSA

Vice President: Deborah Martin
Wayne County DSA

Legislative Director: Brian Earle
Wayne County DSA

June 1, 2015

Dear Members of the Michigan Legislature:

On behalf of the Deputy Sheriff's Association of Michigan (DSAM) I am submitting this letter in opposition of H.B. 4234 and its current substitute H-3. I would like to make it clear, DSAM is not opposed to the use of body cameras, however we are opposed to legislation that will place a severe financial burden on the municipalities that currently choose to utilize body cameras, as well as potential municipalities that may be mandated in the future to utilize body cameras. Further, DSAM believes the data stored will be accessible to the general public despite changes to FOIA.

The House Fiscal Agency states in their Legislative Analysis there will be no significant impact as a result of this bill. Further, several organizations in support of this bill are under the impression that there are no costs associated with this legislation. It is clear that there was never an actual fiscal analysis of the costs associated with data storage. The amount of data accumulated over an average 8 hour shift will vary depending on several factors including the resolution or clarity of the video and audio as well as the type of data stored. The type of data stored alters the amount of data used. For example, an officer on the scene of an accident or a crime in progress, where the camera is taking in lots of audio and multiple images will use more data than when the officer is in their patrol car and the video is only recording the interior of the patrol vehicle. Further, the stronger the resolution of the video the more data it uses. For example; utilizing a resolution of 1080 P and a moderately busy shift the data collected for one officer during one 8 hour shift would be approximately 14.5 gigabytes of data.

1000 gigabytes makes up a terabyte which would mean approximately 69 - 8 hour shift would fill up a terabyte of data. This means approximately 14 officers working one 8 hours shift would fill up a terabyte of data. The costs of storing 1 terabyte of data vary on how it is stored. Smaller departments could get away with in-house storage systems to keep costs down, where larger departments may have to rent out



**United
We
Stand**

Deputy Sheriff's Association of Michigan

President: Dave LaMontaine
Monroe County DSA

Vice President: Deborah Martin
Wayne County DSA

Legislative Director: Brian Earle
Wayne County DSA

companies that store the data in networks. The costs for this storage could range from several thousand up to over a million dollars per year depending on the amount of data. The type of camera, combined with the amount of activity recorded would dictate the actual amount of data collected. The numbers used above were gathered from current cameras being utilized with an estimated amount of data collected.

Our other concern is with the accessibility of the stored data. The bill mandates FOIA requirements that may not prevent the data from being improperly accessed and posted on You Tube or through other mediums. Further, cloud storage has proven to be vulnerable to security breaches via the internet. The threat of improperly accessed data will always be a concern no matter how stringent the security measures are. Data that is approved to be distributed would first have to be run through a program that will allow for protected communications, LEIN information, victims and non-involved civilians caught by the audio or video to be redacted. This would require special programs and employees trained in the use of the programs which increases the costs.

It is the position of DSAM that prior to passing legislation regulating any aspect of body cameras a study be completed as to all the possible costs, and who will cover those costs. Many of the members that we represent work for Counties that cannot afford this technology. Further, strong penalties need to be put in place for any violation of the legislation that mandates how the data is to be distributed. DSAM is willing to work with the Legislature on this however we will remain opposed until these issues are addressed.

Cpl. Brian Earle
Legislative Director
Deputy Sheriff's Association of Michigan